

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 00694 091518Z

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6677

S E C R E T PARIS 0694

EXDIS

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

AF FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, AO

SUBJECT: ANGOLA

1. WE BRIEFED JOURNIAC ON SCHAUFLE'S TALKS IN BONN
AND LONDON. HE ASKED US TO TRANSMIT HIS APPRECIATION.

2. JOURNIAC SAID BRITISH ARE TERRIBLY NAIVE ON
ANGOLAN QUESTION. IN NO WAY CAN MPLA LEADERSHIP BE
CONSIDERED AFRICAN NATIONALISTS. THEY ARE HARD CORE
COMMUNISTS, JOURNIAC SAID. HE POINTED OUT THAT MPLA
FOREIGN MINISTER USED TO WORK AT PRINTEMPS DEPARTMENT
STORE IN PARIS AND WAS MEMBER OF COMMUNIST CELL AT THE
TIME. MPLA LEADERS WHO CAME TO PARIS WERE KNOWN TO
HAVE VISITED FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY HEADQUARTERS EACH
TIME.

3. WE ASKED ABOUT BONGO'S DECISION NOT TO ATTEND OAU
SUMMIT. JOURNIAC SAID PRO-MPLA SOURCE, PROBABLY
ALGERIA, IS SPREADING THE RUMOR THAT OPEC STYLE
TERRORIST ATTACK IS BEING MOUNTED TO GET THE MODERATES
AT ADDIS ABABA. BONGO IS VERY VULNERABLE TO THIS TYPE
OF OPERATION. HE IS STAYING HOME BECAUSE HE IS SCARED.

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4. ON MILITARY SITUATION, JOURNIAC SAID MOBUTU IS

STARTING TO WORRY ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT MPLA FORCES
WILL BE ABLE TO SWEEP ACROSS ZAIRE BORDER AND CUT
KINSHASA-MATADI RAILROAD. THIS IS WHERE NEED TO SHORE
UP MILITARY RESISTANCE TO MPLA IS THE MOST CRITICAL.
IF MOBUTU LOSES HOPE, HE WILL MAKE A DEAL WITH MPLA,
JOURNIAC SAID, AND THEN MOBUTU HIMSELF WILL BE SWEPT
FROM POWER AT HOME. JOURNIAC EMPHASIZED SEVERAL TIMES
DURING CONVERSATION THE URGENCY OF MAKING SURE THAT
MPLA IS STOPPED ON NORTHERN FRONT IN ORDER TO KEEP
MOBUTU FROM CRACKING.

5. COMMENT: DESPITE NEGATIVE DEVELOPMENTS DESCRIBED
ABOVE, JOURNIAC CONTINUED TO BE COMPLETELY GUNG HO WITH
RESPECT TO MAINTAINING THE PRESSURE ON MODERATE AFRI-
CANS TO DEFEAT PRO-MPLA FORCES.
RUSH

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